PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES

In re Application of

Masahito HOASHI et a

09/000, 366 PATENTS Appln. No.:

Date Filed: January 28, 1998

For: METHOD FOR THAWING FROZEN )

GROUND FISH MEAT

Art Unit: 1761

D. Becker Examiner:

Washington, D.C.

November 22, 2000

ATTY.'S DOCKET: HOASHI=2

## REPLY TO PAPER NO. 19

Honorable Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Replying to the Office Action of May 23, 2000, petition for extension of time and payment of late fee being attached hereto, please amend as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 7 (twice amended), last line, delete "of the type".

Claim 7, last line, delete "and/or JP 3-41145B" and Perefor or JP 3-411458--.

PO000366

REMARKS

890.00 OP

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration insert therefor ✓or JP 3-411458--.

11/24/2000 JADDD1 00000050 09000366

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The claims in the application remain as claims 1 and 3-12.

The term "of the type" has been deleted from claim There is nothing wrong with "and/or", as alternative expressions are clearly permissible according to the MPEP;